

## Message Text

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ACTION SNM-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-13

JUSE-00 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-06 OMB-01

AID-05 /052 W

----- 009686

R 161440Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1859

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN SALVADOR 3679

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, ES

SUBJECT: EL SALVADOR AS POSSIBLE FUTURE OPIUM SOURCE

REF: STATE 173247

1. EL SALVADOR HAS NO HISTORY OF OPIUM POPPY CULTIVATION, NOR DO WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USED BY THOSE WISHING TO CULTIVATE OPIUM POPPIES FOR ILLEGAL DRUG PRODUCTION IN THE FUTURE. NO REPORTS HAVE REACHED THE EMBASSY OF TRAFFICKERS EXPLORING THE OPPORTUNITIES OF THIS COUNTRY FOR OPIUM CULTIVATION. WHILE THERE MIGHT BE AREAS WHERE OPIUM CULTIVATION WOULD BE THEORETICALLY POSSIBLE IN TERMS OF SOILS AND CLIMATES, THE MINUTE SIZE OF THE NATIONAL TERRITORY, THE INTENSITY OF PRESENT LAND UTILIZATION, THE RESULTANT HIGH COST OF ARABLE LAND THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY, AND THE LACK OF AREAS "DIFFICULT TO POLICE", WOULD MAKE IT HIGHLY UNLIKELY THAT THOSE SEEKING ALTERNATIVE SITES TO THE REMOTE REGIONS OF MEXICO WOULD FIND SUITABLE LOCATIONS IN EL SALVADOR.

2. THE SALVADORAN CRIMINAL CODE HAS A PROVISION WHICH  
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MAKES THE CULTIVATION OF QTE STUPEFYING SUBSTANCES UNQTE

ILLEGAL. WE PRESUME OPIUM POPPIES WOULD BE SO CLASSIFIED  
ALTHOUGH THERE IS NO PRECEDENT CASE.  
LUBENSKY

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DRUG CONTROL, DRUG TRAFFIC, OPIUM, LAW  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 16 AUG 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ElyME  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976SANSAS03679  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760314-0313  
**From:** SAN SALVADOR  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760850/aaaabrdo.tel  
**Line Count:** 64  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION SNM  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 STATE 173247  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ElyME  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 16 JUL 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <16 JUL 2004 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <27 OCT 2004 by ElyME>  
**Review Markings:**

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EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** EL SALVADOR AS POSSIBLE FUTURE OPIUM SOURCE  
**TAGS:** SNAR, ES  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006